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CRESTVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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September 2017

EVENTS CALENDAR

Monday, Sept. 11: Crestview Neighborhood Association Meeting, 7:00 PM at the Crestview United Methodist Church, 1300 Morrow St. Agenda: Presentation by the Brentwood Park Playground Committee—see article for more information. Presentation by the Shoal Creek Conservancy about their plans to create a bike and pedestrian trail from downtown to the Domain.

Wednesday, Sept. 13: Shoal Creek Conservancy Workshop. 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Congregation Beth Israel, 3901 Shoal Creek Blvd. See article for more information.

Saturday, Sept. 23: First of two Brentwood Park Playground Committee meetings, 10:00 am to 11:00 AM at the Brentwood Park Pavilion, 6710 Arroyo Seco. Share updates on grant applications, design work and equipment details and to gather input from the public. See article or go to brentwoodplaygroundproject.com for more information.

Saturday, Sept. 30: National Night Out (NNO) Kick-Off Event. 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Reagan High School, 7104 Berkman Dr. See article for more information.

Tuesday, Oct. 3: National Night Out Parties. 7:00 to 9:00 PM. Look for signs on your block for party location. See article for more information.

Tuesday, Oct. 24: Second of two Brentwood Park Playground Committee meetings—see above. 7:00 to 8:00 PM at Crestview United Methodist Church, 1300 Morrow St.

Wednesday, Nov. 15: Shoal Creek Conservancy Workshop. 6:00 to 8:00 PM at a northern Shoal Creek location to be determined.

From the President

By Mike Lavigne, CNA President

Howdy Neighbor!

It's been a long, hot summer. I hope you were able to get out of town for some of it, or at least to the pool!

Big thanks to our Vice President, Anne-Charlotte, for writing the column last month. We will be spreading this space among officers more in the future as I'm sure you get as tired of my voice as I do.

We skipped last month's meeting as we just didn't have enough of an agenda to justify turning on the air conditioning. But we've been active nonetheless. By all accounts the ice cream social was a success. It was hot and during mass vacation time but still well attended. These events are a great way to meet your neighbors. Especially those with school aged children.

Our neighborhood always has a lot of residences changing hands and very often they are being occupied by families moving here because of the great schools, safe streets, and perfect sized lots with yards. I encourage you to go knock on the door of a new neighbor (a sixer under your arm can't hurt) and introduce yourself. We've met new neighbors over the last month or two and it renews my love of where we live every single time.

It is incredibly exciting to be able to raise a child in a neighborhood filled with families. This is a feature that we see being eroded throughout the city as most new construction seems to favor young singles. Other neighborhoods that have been severely gentrified by investors rather than accommodating new families are having problems filling their schools, which in turn drives away more families and creates a vicious cycle that usually ends up with a neighborhood turning into little more than an entertainment district.

Which brings me to CodeNEXT.

The next draft is coming out on September 15. We will know then if our voices have been heard or if we are going to just get bulldozed in this process. Both figuratively and literally.

The meeting we held here in June is being emulated around the city with neighborhood groups across town. Ours is still the standard bearer. By all reports the Mayor continues with his vagaries depending on how angry the crowd is when he begins.

Allandale is having a meeting with the Mayor in October that I encourage you to attend.

I'll sign off by reminding you that DENSITY DOES NOT CREATE AFFORDABILITY. It never has, anywhere in the country. It only serves the wants of the big time developers.

I can't leave on a bummer like that so here's a reminder that football season is about to begin! GO HORNS!

Announcements

Craig Cherico, longtime Crestview resident and step-grandson of Ray Yates, one of Crestview's original developers, passed away unexpectedly on July 21. As his funeral program noted, "Craig's list of friends and acquaintances was second to none." Ann Allega said of Craig, "His energy, presence, kindness, FUN, craziness will be remembered by many." Our condolences to his family and many friends.

CRESTVIEW
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
NEWSLETTER

is published monthly on 100% recycled paper by the Crestview Neighborhood Association (CNA).

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CNA Contact Information
P. O. Box 9505, Austin, TX 78766
www.crestviewna.com
CNA General Meetings are held the second Monday of every month at 7:00 PM.
Location to be announced.

Twitter: @CNAneighbors
Facebook: CrestviewNeighborhoodAssociation

Neighborhood Email Groups
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The Perfect Neighbor

By Marilyn Querejazu

How do you describe the perfect neighbor? Quiet, interesting, mysterious…? Those are good qualities to be sure. But, add to that list superior night vison and an appetite for rodents and you have the BEST neighbor ever—the Eastern Screech Owl.

Eastern Screech Owls live in the tree canopy above our homes and yards. You hear them after dusk—a soft trill, like the whinny of a tiny horse. And if you're patient and still you will see one or two swooping across the yard from limb to limb.

New homes are a fact of life in Crestview, but with every lot that is cleared of trees, the owl's habitat slowly diminishes. There are many reasons to protect and plant trees—encouraging owl families to stay in Crestview is one of them.

Owls and Art

Because owls are night dwellers and their calls are spooky, these birds have long fascinated humans. Since the earliest artists sat around the campfire and drew images in the sand, we have tried to capture the weirdness of owls. Owls are everywhere—on cave walls, canvases, and couch cushions.

Owls have been associated with death and dark forces in folklore. On the other hand, owls are considered wise, like Merlin's Archimedes—sitting comfortably on a tree limb late into the night pondering the mysteries of life. With their boxy profile and big eyes…well, owls are just downright cute.

There are beautiful examples of owls in art.

The Little Owl, painted in 1506 by Albrecht Durer, is a lovely watercolor and one of the earliest portraits of an animal.

Vincent Van Gogh drew Barn Owl Viewed From the Front with pen and ink in 1887.

Pablo Picasso really liked owls and kept one as a pet and model. Over his long and storied career Picasso used owls in paintings, drawings, etchings, and ceramics. This is his Owl of Death (1952).

Google away for more images of owls and see sites like www.owling.com and for ideas on owl art projects and nest boxes.

National Night Out

National Night Out is a great opportunity for citizens and law enforcement to partner up against crime. We invite you to attend the event, meet your neighbors and commit to helping law enforcement reduce crime in your community.

This year, National Night Out is Tuesday, October 3, 2017, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM.

If you would like to have city personnel (police, fire or EMS) at your party, the City requests that you register by 5:00 PM on Friday, September 15, 2017.

National Night Out is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness
- Generate support and participation in crime efforts
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community relations
- Let criminals know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back

During the event, residents in neighborhoods throughout Austin and across the nation are asked to turn on their porch lights, lock their doors, and spend the evening outside with

their neighbors, police officers, firefighters, and EMS paramedics. Events such as cookouts, block parties, and neighborhood walks will all occur simultaneously throughout the city and nationwide.

This year's National Night Out Kick-Off Event will take place at Reagan High School on Saturday, September 30, 2017 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

How to join the National Night Out event:

- Austin Police Department Office of Community Liaison Attn: Veronica Saldate (512-974-4735) P. O. Box 689001 Austin, TX 78768-9001
- You can also register online at www.austintexas.gov/online-form/national-night-out-survey or fax your application to (512) 974-6222

For more information about National Night Out, visit www.oclcorp.org/national-night-out.html

Brentwood Park Playground Improvements

Representatives from the Brentwood Park Playground Committee will present their plans for enhancement of the park's playground equipment at the CNA meeting on September 11 and are encouraging residents to attend and provide feedback. The Committee submitted a grant application recently to the Austin Parks Foundation (APF) seeking funding for park renovations. The APF Board will announce the recipient of the $100,000 grant during the first week of October. If awarded, the funds will be used to implement phase 1 of the multi-phase project that will add playground equipment in the park that engages older children. For additional information, visit www.brentwoodplaygroundproject.com.

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CodeNEXT Action Needed

As you know, Codenext is the City's plan to rezone your home and all of the homes around you.

After widespread confusion and consternation over the current draft, the Council directed that city staff generate an additional draft (second draft) for citizen response prior to the final, third draft.

The second draft is due to be released on September 15, 2017. The City's densification goals remain the same. However, in the second draft the zoning districts are going to be renamed, reconfigured and reorganized. And there will be a new Map. All of our study and research to understand what the proposed code means for your property and our neighborhood will have to start over.

Here is the rub: City staff is not giving us enough time to review and comment on the second draft and map before the third draft comes out. We know that it will take extensive time and effort to review this 1,100-page document. The 10 weeks given to citizens with families and jobs or school to study this lengthy, highly technical document and map at night and on weekends is about one-third of the combined time we were given to review and comment on the First Draft and the first Map. It is not nearly enough. The timeline undermines the purpose of an additional draft.

Please Email the Mayor with a copy to our Council Member Leslie Pool and ask in two or three sentences, and in your own words, to give the public more time to review and comment on the second and the third drafts of CodeNEXT. Remember, the fact that you care enough to write is more important than the wording of your email.

Here are the addresses:
steve.adler@austintexas.gov
leslie.pool@austintexas.gov

The City CodeNEXT documents repeatedly say "help us get it right." They have to give us a chance to do so. Tell the Mayor and Council – we need more time to get it right. We need more time to review the remaining drafts.

Don't Blow It!

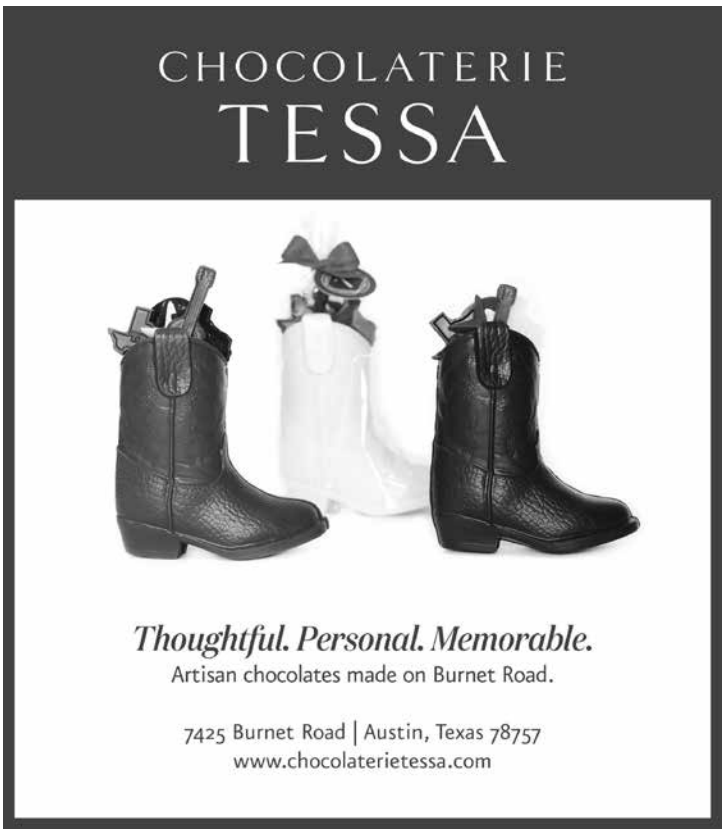
PSA from the City of Austin

Fallen leaves and grass clippings are great for your yard's soil and plants! If you prefer to remove them, please don't blow them into the street – they'll wash into our creeks, potentially harming aquatic animals as they decompose and reduce oxygen in the water. Instead, put them in your compost pile, your green bin that holds compostable materials or bag them in paper bags for the City to pick up.

Thank you! Austin Recycles
https://austintexas.gov/what-do-i-do

Shoal Creek Trail: Vision to Action Plan

Shoal Creek Conservancy and the City of Austin are partnering with community members to create a plan to improve, connect, and extend the Shoal Creek Trail. The expanded trail will encourage green, human-powered transportation, provide a setting for outdoor family activities, and inspire Austinites to discover Shoal Creek's hidden natural and historic gems. A representative from the Shoal Creek Conservancy will present the plan at the September 11 CNA meeting. For more information, visit www.shoalcreekconservancy.org/trailplan.



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APD Crime Search Report for July 2017

Crime	Street	Date	Time
Aggravated Assault	21XX Anderson Ln	7/27/17	16:10
Assault by Contact	77XX Burnet Rd	7/30/17	15:32
Auto Theft	8XX St Johns Ave	7/5/17	13:43
Burglary of Residence	13XX Richcreek Rd	7/23/17	18:08
Burglary of Vehicle	18XX Morrow St	7/6/17	13:10
Burglary of Vehicle	21XX Anderson Ln	7/29/17	11:21
Burglary of Vehicle	21XX Anderson Ln	7/29/17	20:01
Crash/Leaving the Scene	19XX Richcreek Rd	7/29/17	5:39
Doc Discharge of Gun – Pub Place	9XX Anderson Ln	7/27/17	3:23
DWI/Felony	17XX Madison Ave	7/9/17	10:38
DWI	75XX Lamar Blvd	7/31/17	0:46
DWI .15 Bac Or Above	75XX Burnet Rd	7/9/17	2:29
Poss Dang Drug	69XX Ryan	7/6/17	15:42
Suspicious Person	18XX Morrow St	7/13/17	15:58
Suspicious Person	12XX Stobaugh St	7/22/17	23:49
Theft	19XX Piedmont	7/17/17	13:31
Theft from Person	69XX Burnet Rd	7/6/17	13:30
Theft of Bicycle	72XX Easy Wind Dr	7/5/17	13:53
Theft of Service	2XXX Hardy Cir	7/25/17	13:07

September Safety Tip

Now that school is back in session, many of our children will be riding their bikes to and from school. Parents can help keep their children safe by mapping out the safest route for their children to follow and educating them on safe riding practices and rules of the road. Check your child's bike on a regular basis to be sure it is in good working order to avoid accidents from mechanical failure. Wearing bright colored clothing helps them to be more visible to motorists.

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